

HOUSE RESOLUTION 293

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor the Jefferson Awards nominees from the Jackson/Madison County region.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we acknowledge and applaud those estimable Tennesseans who have devoted their time and talents to bettering their communities; and

WHEREAS, this year's Jefferson Awards nominees from the Jackson/Madison County region are individuals who have proven themselves faithful stewards of their communities and are most deserving of this prestigious recognition; and

WHEREAS, the awards are given by the Jefferson Awards Foundation, which was founded in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft, Jr., and Sam Beard; the foundation celebrates and inspires community action, sponsors programs and partnerships that drive Americans to change their communities and the world, and empowers others to have a maximum impact on the things they care about most; and

WHEREAS, the nine nominees from the Jackson/Madison County region are Rickey Alexander, Dave Brumley, Jeff Wall, Chrissie Pennington, Linley White, Lori Collins, Norwood Jones, Bruce Hussey, and Glorious Damron; and

WHEREAS, Rickey Alexander of Decaturville, a Tennessee State Representative for CUE Center for Missing Persons, has worked missing persons cases across the state for eight years; he is also active with fundraising events for families enduring hardships and volunteers with the Aware Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Dave Brumley of Jackson has volunteered with the Red Cross for many years; he is involved in all areas of chapter operations, from disaster response to leadership,

and has a direct impact on helping hundreds of families deal with natural and man-made disasters; and

WHEREAS, Jeff Wall of Jackson started clothing and supply closets for underprivileged kids; he founded Jackson/Madison County Trunk or Treat over ten years ago, and the program has grown to include over 20,000 guests, with businesses and federal, state, and local emergency service members participating; and

WHEREAS, Chrissie Pennington of Henderson is a seventh grade teacher who started a soup kitchen in Henderson in early 2017; the effort operates entirely on donations and provides free meals each Saturday for anyone who is hungry; and

WHEREAS, Linley White of Paris, a retired community college dean and Vietnam veteran, is the coordinator for REAL Hope Youth Center and raises money for the organization through various events, including an annual golf tournament and Shiver on the River; and

WHEREAS, Lori Collins of Jackson is the founder of the not-for-profit Redemption Road Rescue, which rescues, rehabilitates, and re-homes equine in West Tennessee; the organization has over fifty volunteers and has rescued more than 500 animals; and

WHEREAS, Norwood Jones of Jackson has done church work at Forest Heights United Methodist for many years; he has also volunteered for FCA, the Optimist Club, and Dream Center and has been a Red Coat for the Jackson Chamber; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Hussey of Jackson operates an after-school program and a summer program for children of the Old Hickory area, providing them with homework help and snacks; he also hosts a Friday-night program for teens and provides free meals every Monday night; and

WHEREAS, Glorious Damron of Adamsville has been distributing Christmas fruit baskets in the community since 1991; she started a food pantry at her local church over nine years ago and has operated a nonprofit summer food program for children and youth; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that these hometown heroes be honored; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize and honor the Jackson/Madison County nominees for this year's Jefferson Awards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.